

AUTOMATED AIRLINE BAGGAGE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

ABSTRACT

An automated airline baggage transportation system includes a tug connectable to an airplane and a plurality of guide rails for automatically directing an airplane to a gate terminal. The system further includes a plurality of flexible and elongated conveyor tubes selectively positionable between an airplane and an airport terminal, and a plurality of baggage loaders with adjustable arm loaders for guiding baggage between the plurality of conveyor tubes and an airplane. The plurality of adjustable arm loaders are connected to a plurality of shelves disposed in an airplane bin for assisting to transport the baggage between the shelves and the conveyor tubes. An adjustable gate pier including a plurality of baggage chutes is connected to a gate terminal and is selectively extendable outwardly and away from a gate terminal so that baggage can be presorted for transportation towards or away from an airplane via the plurality of conveyor tubes.